



19 June 2014

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Via email: jsct@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary

Inquiry into the Free Trade Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Korea

The Australian Agricultural Company Limited (AACo) strongly supports the Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement (KAFTA).

The KAFTA will help ensure that Australia's beef sector remains competitive with that of the United States, which is the major competitor supplying imported beef to Korea.

This is significant for AACo as Korea is the company's largest export beef market, accounting for more than 20 per cent of annual beef sales.

Until the KAFTA is ratified in Australia and Korea, the United States will retain a price advantage over Australian beef due to signing its own FTA in 2012. To establish a level playing field as soon as possible it is critical that the KAFTA be ratified and implemented without delay and before the end of 2014.

We concur with the Meat & Livestock Australia submission to this review and the recommendations within it.

Yours sincerely,

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